

WFO MKX Warnings & Advisories Thresholds

CONVECTIVE AND HYDROLOGIC EVENTS	THRESHOLDS
TORNADO WARNING - TOR	Tornado sighted by spotters or imminent based on radar
SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING - SVR	Winds = > 58 mph (or implied by damage) and/or hail = >3/4 inch
FLASH FLOOD WARNING - FFW	Rapidly developing flooding that produces life/property threat within 0-6 hrs of the causative event
FLOOD WARNING - FFW	Areal flooding that produces life/property threat within 6-12 hrs of the causative event
FLOOD WARNING (MAINSTEM RIVER) - FLW	River flooding that produces life/property threat
URBAN/SMALL STREAM FLOOD ADVISORY- FLS	Inconvenience flooding in 0 - 24 Hrs
COLD-SEASON EVENTS	THRESHOLDS
WINTER STORM WARNING – WSW <i>*Forecaster discretion according to the ‘apple plan’ should be used for events that may not officially reach warning criteria, but have a significant impact on society.</i>	One or more of the following weather events <= 12 hours (unless otherwise stated): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - more than 6” of snow (or 8” <= 24 hrs) - freezing rain (< ¼ inch and while accompanied by another event) - sleet accumulations of 2 inches or more - intermittent blowing snow reducing visibilities to <½ mile & winds 25-34 mph, or closed roads - forecaster discretion example: <= 6” of snow with sustained winds/frequent gusts of 25-34 mph
BLIZZARD WARNING – WSW	Sustained winds or frequent gusts = > 35 mph and falling/blowing snow with visibilities near ¼ mile or less for >= 3 hr
LAKE EFFECT SNOW WARNING – WSW	> 6” of heavy lake effect snow showers or snow squalls within 12 hrs, or >= 8” within 24 hrs
ICE STORM WARNING – WSW	Ice accumulations = > ¼ inch within 12 hours
WIND CHILL WARNING – WSW	Wind chills 35 below or colder with winds at least 10 mph for >= 3 hours
WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY – WSW <i>*Forecaster discretion according to the ‘apple plan’ should be used for events that may not officially reach advisory criteria, but have a large impact on society.</i>	One or more of the following weather events <= 12 hours: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 - 6” of snow within 12 hours - freezing rain (< ¼ inch and while accompanied by another event) - sleet accumulations of < 2 inches - intermittent blowing snow reducing visibilities to <½ mile & winds < 25 mph
LAKE EFFECT SNOW ADVISORY - WSW	3 - 6” of lake effect snow showers or snow squalls in 12 hours or less
FREEZING RAIN ADVISORY - WSW	Less than ¼ inch of ice within 12 hours
WIND CHILL ADVISORY - WSW	Wind chills -20 to -34 with winds at least 10 mph for at least 3 hours
NON-PRECIPITATION EVENTS	THRESHOLDS
HIGH WIND WARNING - NPW	Sustained winds 40 mph or more for 1 hr or more, or any gust 58 mph or more
EXCESSIVE HEAT WARNING - NPW	HI >= 105 during the day and HI >= 75 at night for a 48 hr period, or advisory conditions for at least 4 consecutive days
EXTREME COLD WARNING – NPW	Low temperatures <= -20F and/or high temperatures <= 0F

RED FLAG WARNING - NPW	Winds \geq 20 mph, RH \leq 25%, temps \geq 75 F, and critically dry fuels - extreme fire danger behavior
FREEZE WARNING - NPW	During growing season, widespread temps around 31 or less resulting in frozen vegetation
HARD FREEZE WARNING - NPW	During growing season, widespread temps around 25 or less resulting in frozen vegetation
DUST STORM WARNING - NPW	Widespread/local blowing dust reducing visibilities to 1/4 mile or less for at least 3 hours with winds \Rightarrow 40 mph
WIND ADVISORY - NPW	Sustained winds \geq 30 mph for at least 1 hour, or any gust 45 to 57 mph
HEAT ADVISORY - NPW	HI \geq 100 during the day or high temperatures \geq 95F
FROST ADVISORY - NPW	During growing season, widespread frost with temps 32 - 39F
DENSE FOG ADVISORY - NPW	Widespread/local visibilities = $<$ 1/4 mile for at least 3 hours due to fog
FREEZING FOG ADVISORY - NPW	Fog freezing deposits on cold objects impacting transportation. Visibilities generally less than 3 miles.
DENSE SMOKE ADVISORY - NPW	Widespread/localized visibilities of 1 mile or less for at least 3 hours due to smoke
BLOWING DUST ADVISORY - NPW	Widespread/localized visibilities of 1 mile or less for at least 3 hours due to dust, and winds \geq 30 mph
ASHFALL ADVISORY - NPW	Ash from a volcanic eruption, forest fire, or indirectly from wind suspending ash generating visibilities \leq 1/4 mile
AIR STAGNATION ADVISORY - NPW	Major buildup of air pollution, smoke, dust, gases (State DNR usually issues statement as well)
MARINE EVENTS	THRESHOLDS
SPECIAL MARINE WARNING - SMW	Winds of at least 34 knots (convective or non-convective) for 2 hrs or less or waterspouts
HURRICANE FORCE WIND WARNING - CHIGLFLM & MWW	Sustained winds or frequent gusts of 64 knots or greater
STORM WARNING - CHIGLFLM & MWW	Sustained winds 48 to 63 knots or frequent gusts of 50 to 63 knots
GALE WARNING - CHIGLFLM & MWW	Sustained winds 34 to 47 knots or frequent gusts 38 to 47 knots
FREEZING SPRAY WARNING – CHIGLFLM & MWW	Air temps 20-30F & winds \geq 34 knots, or 10-19F & \geq 25 knots, or $<$ 10F & $>$ 20 knots
LAKESHORE FLOOD WARNING - CFW	Significant lakeshore flooding, erosion, ice jam, or seiche
SMALL CRAFT ADVISORY - MWW	Winds 22 to 33 knots and/or waves $>$ 4 ft
DENSE FOG ADVISORY - MWW	Widespread visibilities = $<$ 1/4 mile for at least 3 hours due to fog
ASHFALL ADVISORY - MWW	Ash from a volcanic eruption, forest fire, or indirectly from wind suspending ash generating visibilities \leq 1/4 mile